

# The Lancaster News

(SEMI-WEEKLY.)

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The News is not responsible for the views of Correspondents.  
Short and rational articles on topics of general interest will be gladly received.

TUESDAY, FEB. 13, 1917.

"Lancaster Leads." All the time.

It would have been a comparatively simple matter to conduct a "leak" investigation almost anywhere in Lancaster last week.

A headline tells, "Schoolmarm Kills Lion." We expect the pupils of the school taught by the huntress would prefer to have it reversed.

People who think that the world owes them a living are usually too lazy to go out and collect the account.

We would like for some bright young person to tell us if Fido ate up all the kitten's meat would the catnip?

Superstitious people think that Friday is unlucky and three of the candidates for Congress are going to be convinced of that fact for the rest of their lives after next Friday.

Although he is now just a plain American citizen like the rest of us, Mr. William Jennings Bryan still insists on trying to tell how the government should be conducted.

Whoever has the \$39.28 belonging to us will kindly bring it in at once. Government figures estimate this as being the per capita wealth and we need our share right now.

While York's municipal officers were trotting over the State looking at the fire fighting apparatus of other towns, they should have paid a visit to Lancaster and inspected a "shonuff" fire department.

We believe Lancaster is a good town and we know that Lancaster has good people. With those two facts in mind, we are going to give Lancaster a newspaper worthy of the town and of the people.

We heard a man talking in a hotel lobby several nights ago of the places he had visited and the things he had seen and according to reliable figures he must be not less than 113 years old at present.

News items from Sumter in one day tell of two men committing suicide and another states that all jails there are filled with prisoners. We hardly think that Sumter would appeal to us as a place in which to live.

Since the United States is on the brink of going to war, young men of Lancaster may learn with interest that by getting married they can keep from being summoned for a time. We had personally rather try the war.

In a Lancaster drug store the other day a young lady asked the handsome clerk the name of a camera. "Belvedere" he replied. After a moment's hesitation the young lady asked, "Er,—do you recommend the Belva?"

Some poor, down-trodden newspaper slaves on daily sheets think they are living, when as a matter of fact they are but existing. They ought to try real life in a real town like Lancaster and see how much fun there is in living.

## IT PASSES UNDERSTANDING.

For years and years every one entering a public building of any kind has seen a placard asking people not to expectorate on the floor, and we thought that the public had reached the place where such signs were heeded. Imagine then our surprise when we attended a public gathering last week in Lancaster and saw some eight or ten different men spitting all over everything in sight. Some were chewing tobacco, some looked like they had tuberculosis and some were undergoing an attack of gripe or whooping-cough or something of the kind. The writer had never felt the need of a rain coat and an umbrella more acutely than he did for the two hours the meeting was in progress. It is actually hard to believe that civilized people in a civilized community would have the indecency to spit promiscuously, not only over the floor but on people as well.

We don't know just what laws govern the subject, but we would like to see some action taken by which a man could be placed in jail 30 days every time he spits on the floor.

What would the average man think if a caller should come to his home and expectorate all over the premises? Well, where is the difference as regards a public building?

## YES, THEY WILL—NOT.

We find quite a bit of pleasure in reading expressions published in various newspapers from German citizens who have located in the United States and are now making their homes here. In discussing the war situation, practically every German and practically all German alliances in the United States declare that they will be ready to answer the call to arms of the United States government, should such a call come. Yes, they will—not. We have an idea that about two out of every one hundred Germans in the country would stand by the United States and the other ninety-eight would either be trying their best to get back to Germany or would be plotting mischief they could do in this country for the "Fatherland."

We are frank to say that if we were living in Germany and war was declared with the United States, we would do everything in our power for the Union and we are pretty well convinced that the Germans here feel the same way.

The talk of Germans fighting for the United States against their mother country is all poppy-cock and all sensible people know it.

## AND NOW THE GOVERNMENT.

Not content with imposing upon the newspapers in every way it possibly can, the United States government is now considering the question of advancing the price of postage on newspapers.

Each week the average newspaper receives from the various government departments about two bushels of matter the government wants printed in the paper and without exception the line always appears, "there is no appropriation with which to pay for this." The United States government is run on the tight-wad basis so far as newspapers are concerned and the government gives the newspapers mighty little.

We have forgotten who the Congressman is who has introduced the bill in Congress to increase the postage rates on newspapers, but we sincerely hope that the newspapers of his home town and district, wherever that may be, will flay him alive and see to it that he never gets back in the halls of Congress again.

## WE ASK A LITTLE AID.

When the next issue of The Lancaster News is printed the first primary for the selection of a Congressman from this district will be in progress and we will be unable to give the news of the election to our readers until the following Tuesday, but in order that we may answer inquiries from the public and have a tabulated form ready for Tuesday, we wish to ask some manager at every precinct in the county to kindly telephone us in the result at his

box some time Friday afternoon. It is probable that the votes will be counted by 5 o'clock at most boxes and if the managers will assist us in compiling the returns, we should be able to give the public some information on the matter by 7 o'clock in the evening.

We hope that one manager at each box will be kind enough to co-operate with us in this and let us have the returns at the earliest possible moment.

## NOW IS THE TIME.

We hear that there is some agitation about reviving the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and putting it back on its feet. The news, if true, should be pleasing to the business men of Lancaster and all others interested in the advancement of the town.

Hot-air promises and a great tooting of horns will not accomplish anything for the town and that is all some Chambers of Commerce do, but we believe that the local organization, if revived and placed in the hands of competent men, can be a great factor in the upbuilding of the town.

If such a movement is on foot, we want to see it go through and we want to see the business men stand behind the venture now as they have in the past. With co-operation and assistance from all hands, the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce can do great things for the town.

## A FORTUNATE DISTRICT.

Those in attendance at the political meeting held here Saturday were impressed with the fact that the Fifth Congressional district of South Carolina is fortunate in having five such candidates running for the office. We firmly believe that any one of the five men asking the voters of the district for their support, will compare favorably with any other district's representative. Of course we have a preference, just as every other voter has, but we do not believe that the Fifth district will have cause to be ashamed of our representative, no matter which of the five gentlemen is elected.

## BOYS READ THIS:

Don't be afraid of work.  
The publisher of one of the world's greatest newspapers was shining shoes and selling newspapers when less than 16 years old.

Thomas Edison was a newsboy at 16.

The inventor of the comptometer was working at a lathe when only 14.

Andrew Carnegie was a newsboy.  
John D. Rockefeller was a grocer's clerk when a boy.

The president of the Illinois Manufacturers' association was herding cattle at the age of 12 years.

Plan right now for a job when school is out this spring. Don't worry about the pay—just get a job.

## ONE GREAT DANGER.

Probably the liquor laws of South Carolina at present are ineffective, but we are much afraid that the General Assembly, by continually changing the law, will eventually put South Carolina back in the "wet" column. It is our honest opinion that if the General Assembly does enact a "bone-dry" prohibition measure, that there will be a howl from one end of the State to the other. We may be wrong, but we are sure that the prohibition election two years ago was not indicative of the opinion of the voters of the State. The votes cast in that election were cast by the anti-saloon league supporters entirely and those in favor of liquor did not visit the polls.

We may be wrong, but we believe that the present liquor law, allowing each citizen one gallon per month, is as near a solution of the problem as is possible.

## What Others Say

**Those Anderson Folk.**  
An Anderson man writes asking to know what an "overt act" is, saying he wants to know because if he sees Germany commit one he can tell the United States about it.—Spartanburg Journal.

**Nothing in a Name.**  
And again, just to show you there is nothing in a name, the negro George Washington who was killed on the California was a British subject and born in Alberta, Canada.—Greenwood Journal.

**Combustible Is Right.**  
Ignorance begets credulity. It means a lack of understanding. The ignorant man cannot even see what is best for himself. There is much ignorance in South Carolina. Therefore, there is much credulity. This is one explanation of our combustible politics.

**Both Wrong.**  
As England is using illegal means to carry out her announced intention of starving Germany, some of us cannot condemn Germany for using illegal means in attempting to starve England in retaliation. Both are wrong.—Greenville Piedmont.

**Mighty Poor Logic.**  
An Indiana man shot himself about two weeks ago because his sweetheart refused to marry him. He has now recovered and his sweetheart has decided to marry him. Moral: If your sweetheart refuses to marry you, shoot yourself.—Spartanburg Journal.

**Would Win Votes.**  
"Preacher Says Women Are Using More Liquor." Of course, the suffragists would beg to differ from the divine who made such a statement, but if they should refrain from taking issue, the cause might win a big crowd of advocates from an unexpected source.—Columbia State.

**Probably So.**  
It may be possible for this country and Germany to reach an agreement that will stave off actual war between them, but perhaps just before the time for such an event, those two American steamers, the Rochester and Orleans, unarmed and heedless, will enter the barred zone with disastrous results.—Columbia State.

**Some Always Complain.**  
Telegraphic advices from Cheyenne, Wyo., Tuesday were to the effect that a snow blockade which had closed the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad since January 31 had just been cleared, and that more than fifty trains, which had been stalled in the snow, were released. And yet some people complain about the "cold" here in Darlington!—Darlington News and Press.

**The Madness of War.**  
The outrage against civilization and international rights of neutral nations offered by Germany in threatening to sink all vessels without warning, attempting to enter any of the ports of the Allies engaged in the war against her, is her final frantic stand in a hopeless struggle. We have in this frenzied policy of Germany simply the horrible example of the madness of war when it is fought to the last ditch.—Orangeburg Times and Democrat.

**Too Much Evidence.**  
Too much evidence is almost as bad as too little. The public has lost interest in the "leak" inquiry not only because more interesting things have forced the leak out of mind but also because there has been such a mass of testimony, some of it contradictory and most of it inconsequential, that most people long ago gave up trying to follow it. Now that the lady who was supposed to be loaded with information that would startle the country has admitted that her information was based upon the prattle of a child, it will be harder than ever to get the public to return to serious consideration of the "leak" inquiry.—News and Courier.

**American Diplomacy.**  
A nation, like an individual, likes to look back on a clean record. America can do so in this instance. Scrupulously, patiently, this government has borne the encroachments of both sides until it seemed that America was to be not only long-suffering, but all-suffering. At last came the crisis. Germany announced that she would sink all ships (even American ships) in certain waters. This repudiated her former solemn pledges and announced a campaign of ruthless savagery. America has severed relations, therefore, with Germany and the prospects for a peaceful solution is not encouraging.—Manning Herald.

## Our Scrap Basket

**Definitions of Moderns.**  
Boarding House—The maximum of gossip and the minimum of food.  
Comedian—The saddest sight upon the modern stage.

**Loony Limericks.**  
There once was a warrior bold,  
Who at bay a battalion could hold  
But he shook like a leaf,  
(Tis a fact past belief.)  
When his better-half started to scold.

**1911 Daffydils.**  
Is a symmetrical female figure to be desired? Of corset is!  
Why not make a desk tool of the negro marathon runner? Is he not an inky racer?  
The trees are unlike the girls at the seaside, for they bare their limbs in the winter.  
If a knife and fork should become lovers, where would they spoon?  
Of all the noisy girls of good looks, is not the door bell the worst.  
Man got it in the neck when collars increased in price.

**Learn a Little Every Day.**  
A well trained conscience speaks only when spoken to.  
A kettle sings because the air escapes by fits and starts, thus producing the singing sound.  
Plants grow more on bright moonlight nights because such nights produce more dew.  
Animals are covered with fur, hair and feathers because these substances prevent the heat from the body escaping.  
It isn't always the quiver in a girl's voice that draws a beau. When love once grows cold, it is unpalatable when warmed over.

**This Week as it is Not in History.**  
Monday, Feb. 12.—Peter the great founds the Bull Moose party, 1840.  
Tuesday, Feb. 13.—Cinderella is the first picture play actress, 1610.  
Wednesday, Feb. 14.—The Vikings invented the musical scale, 40.  
Thursday, Feb. 15.—Tom Thumb arranges a match with Jess Willard, 1842.  
Friday, Feb. 16.—Tecumseh originates a new tattooing pattern, 1850.  
Saturday, Feb. 17.—Sir Walter Raleigh buys an x-ray machine for experimental purposes, 1630.  
Sunday, Feb. 18.—Pawnee Bill decides to have his hair cut, 1920.

**How It Happened.**  
There are at least  
Short intervals  
Of time  
When a publisher's life  
Is worth while.  
Only the other evening  
When we were  
Looking the office  
To go home for the night,  
A subscriber came in  
And paid \$6 on  
Back subscription  
And two years in advance.  
And while we were fixing  
Up his receipt  
The telephone rang  
And a business man said  
He wanted a whole page  
Of space  
In every issue  
From now until July.  
Then a little girl  
Gave us \$10  
And said  
Her pa sent it up and  
For us to just  
Give him credit on  
His paper.  
For about two hours  
They kept coming  
And we took in  
More money  
In those two hours  
Than we ever took in  
In two weeks  
Before.  
And just when we reached  
Home the telephone  
Rang. It was our  
Banker and he said  
A relative of ours  
Had died  
And left us  
Four million dollars.  
It made us feel  
So good  
That we just had to hug  
Our wife,  
And she said:  
"Henry, stop that;  
It's six o'clock  
And  
Time to get up."

## BOY FOUND DEAD IN COTTON SEED

Negro Youth Suffocated When Seed Caved in at Local Mill.

The dead body of Waddell Mackey, a negro youth about 18 years of age, was discovered in a pile of cotton seed at the Lancaster Cotton Oil Company Saturday afternoon about 5:30 o'clock. It is presumed that the negro had been in the seed since about 11 o'clock Saturday morning.

The most natural conclusion is that the boy lay down and went to sleep Saturday morning and that the cotton seed caved in on him. If he made any attempt to get out, he evidently went in the wrong direction and was suffocated.

The body was brought to his home in this city and the funeral was held Sunday.

## MRS. MASSEY WAS BURIED SATURDAY

Following Her Death in Columbia, Body Was Brought Here for Interment.

Mrs. Leila Robinson Massey, who died in Columbia Thursday afternoon was buried in Lancaster Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. D. W. Keller of the Lancaster Methodist church and interment followed in West Side cemetery.

Mrs. Massey was formerly Miss Leila Robinson of Lancaster. She was 39 years of age. She had been living in Columbia for a number of years. She was a consecrated Christian, a member of Green Street Methodist church.

She is survived by her step-father and her mother, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Plyler of Lancaster, and by the following children, Otis Massey, Frank Massey and Bert Massey and Misses Lillian, Sallie and Edna Massey. She also is survived by a brother, James Robinson of Lancaster, and two sisters, Miss Hattie Robinson of Lancaster and Mrs. Mattie Hubbard of North Carolina.

## LOCAL WOMEN TO WAGE CAMPAIGN

The Lancaster Ladies Have Formed an Enthusiastic Equal Suffrage League.

The Lancaster Equal Suffrage League held its initial meeting Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the residence of Mrs. C. D. Jones, vice-president of the local league. The meeting was a large and enthusiastic one.

Mrs. Springs made a report of the work done in the Suffrage School which was held in Columbia on Feb. 8-9-10. Delegates from many cities throughout the State attended the school, and took back to their local leagues the benefit of the forceful speeches made by the instructors, Mrs. Cotnam, Mrs. Wilson and Miss Doughty, representatives of the National Association.

The days selected for all future regular meetings of the Lancaster League are the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. There will be a call meeting of the league on Thursday of this week at the residence of Mrs. C. D. Jones at 4 o'clock. All members, and any desiring to be enrolled as new members, are urged to be present on next Thursday afternoon.

The officers of the local league are: President, Mrs. Leroy Springs; vice-president, Mrs. R. R. Riddle; secretary, Mrs. C. D. Jones; treasurer, Mrs. W. S. Patterson.

## NEGRO SUFFERED A MORTAL WOUND

Duff Marshall is Charged With Shooting Pet Moses Last Sunday Night.

Duff Marshall, a negro, was brought to Lancaster yesterday morning and lodged in the county jail, charged with shooting Pet Moses, another negro. The injured negro is in a critical condition, the shot having taken effect in his abdomen, and it is thought that his chances for recovery are very slight.

The shooting took place Sunday on the plantation of the Lancaster Mercantile Company and H. W. Bell, manager of the farm and formerly chief of police of Lancaster, brought the prisoner to town yesterday and turned him over to Sheriff Hunter.

It is said that the negroes had been drinking shortly before the shooting and it is presumed that whiskey was the cause of the row.